

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

2013 Municipal Election Experience Report

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Overview

Of the 877,023 registered voters in Allegheny County, 180,867 – or 20.62%, voted at the past November 5, 2013 Municipal Election. This level of voter participation is lower than turnout levels in recent past elections of this type.

A total of 4,626 absentee ballots were issued and 118 provisional ballots were cast. Of the provisional ballots, 19 were fully counted, 36 partially counted and 49 were not counted. The majority of those not counted were due to the fact that the provisional voter was not a registered voter.

Over 176,000 “emergency” paper ballots were supplied to this County’s 1,318 polling places in the event that at least one-half of the voting machines in a precinct were non-functional. 10 emergency ballots were used in 4 voting districts. 8 of the emergency ballots were used due to the fact that the local district election board used the PEBs from another election district at the same polling location to open their machines the morning of the election. New PEBs were created and dispatched to the affected election districts.

1,619 candidates appeared on the ballot and a total of over 300 distinct ballot configurations were created to accommodate the State, County and local municipal office contests. Over 750 individuals were notified that they were elected to the office of Judge or Inspector of Election by write-in vote. Home Rule Charter amendment referendum questions appeared on the ballot in the Cities of Pittsburgh and McKeesport and questions to determine voter approval for a dedicated real estate tax to support a local library appeared on the ballot in the Boroughs of Homestead, Munhall, West Homestead and Whitaker.

Accessibility

All 1,318 polling places in this County have been classified as “accessible” pursuant to the standards promulgated by the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Firmware Verification

Allegheny County employed the services of “GRP Consulting Group, LLC” to verify that the software resident on the iVotronic voting devices contain the “trusted build” version certified by the Pennsylvania Department of State. As has been the case for the previous three times that this process has been employed, no instance of uncertified software has been detected. Copies of the reports prepared for the November 5, 2013 Municipal Election are attached below.

[Executive Summary \(.pdf\)](#)

[Final Report \(.pdf\)](#)

Logic and Accuracy Testing

Extensive automated and manual Logic and Accuracy Testing (L&A) was performed. Automated L&A was performed on all 4,228 iVotronic voting machines deployed on Election Day. Manual L&A was also performed for each of the approximately 300 different ballot configurations. Those parties and organizations permitted by Pennsylvania law to be present during this process were duly notified.

The “test deck” comprised of over 13,800 ballots, containing ballots for every candidate and question, was used to verify that the 5 ES&S Model 650 high-speed ballot counters would accurately count the absentee, provisional and emergency optical scan paper ballots to be used at the election. This test was conducted prior to Election day as well as before final certification of the election results. In both tests, the ballot scanners produced an accurate count. Public notice of the pre-election test was given, as required by law.

Network Security

Also following past practice, an independent third-party review was conducted both prior to and after the past Election to assure that our election network was isolated and not connected to any external network. Copies of the reports produced by “Solutionary” are attached below.

[Air Gap Report \(.pdf\)](#)

Parallel Testing

Since the November 2006 Election, Allegheny County has employed a Certified Public Accounting firm to ensure that the functionality of the iVotronic voting machine devices have not been compromised. Once again, the parallel testing performed at the November 5, 2013 Municipal Election indicated that the randomly-selected voting devices recorded and counted all votes completely and correctly. A copy of the report issued by Parente Beard is attached below.

[Parallel Test \(.pdf\)](#)